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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Identical letters dated 11 June 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia dated 9 June 2009 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 11 June 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

Illegal gangs comprising approximately 50 men and 2 armoured vehicles under the control of the Tskhinvali proxy regime entered the village of Perevi on 7 June 2009. There are currently 15 members of the illegal gangs, controlled by the Tskhinvali proxy regime, and their 2 armoured vehicles still present in Perevi, together with Russian occupants. Cases of robbery and burglary, including cattle theft, have continued to be reported from the village of Perevi for two days.

The situation remains tense in the Gali district as well, which is populated largely by ethnic Georgians. On 8 June 2009, the Kharchilava family was attacked in the Gali district by Russian occupants and representatives of the Sokhumi proxy regime. Two women and two children were kidnapped and are now threatened with death unless the father of the children appears at a militia station in Ochamchire. This fact points clearly to the grave conditions in which the population is still living in the occupied territories.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia reiterates that effective control in Georgia's occupied areas, including the village of Perevi, Sachkhere district, which was never part of the conflict zone, is being exercised by the Russian Federation, which should be held fully responsible for the unlawful actions on the ground.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls upon the international community to employ all instruments at its disposal in order to force Russia to comply with the norms and principles of international law as well as with its international commitments, including the ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008, and urges the international organizations on the ground to take appropriate action on the aforesaid facts.